

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 19-23 are now pending. This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-18.

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made to maintain pendency, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

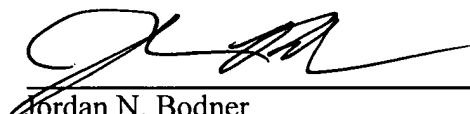
Consideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone call would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: October 8, 2003

By:



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JNB/smn